that the plan would react in any disadvantageous way on the authors. The preparation of restricted abstracts, such as this plan requires, is at least an exercise in concise composition.

The Introduction of Exotic Animals. — The Yearbook of the U. S. Department of Agriculture for 1898 contains a most important and interesting paper by Mr. T. S. Palmer, entitled "The Danger of Introducing Noxious Animals and Birds." Though Mr. Palmer uses animals and mammals as synonymous terms, his subject would bear more extended treatment. The need of legislation to prevent the importation of species which may become injurious is well and temperately stated; scientific men, however, should unite in preserving the integrity of the natural faunas and floras, and should urge that all laws made to forbid the introduction of exotic species include Mongolian pheasants introduced for sport, and skylarks brought here for the charm of their song.

Colors of Deep-Sea Animals. — In a paper of this title (*Rept. Iowa Acad. Sci., 1898*) Dr. C. C. Nutting explains the occurrence of bright pigments and well-developed eyes in animals from great depths by the existence there of a phosphorescent light emanating from the animals themselves, and in support of his idea advances the fact that cave animals, on the other hand, are colorless and blind. We wish to point out that Dr. Walter Faxon in his report on the Stalk-Eyed Crustacea of the *Albatross* expedition (*Mem. Mus. Comp. Zoöl.*, Vol. XVIII, 1895) devotes a special chapter to the colors of deep-sea Crustacea, and suggests the existence at great depths of a phosphorescent light; and he also emphasizes the opposite conditions existing in cave animals. The prevailing red tints of deep-sea forms are explained by Faxon through simple physiological reactions in the chromatophores owing to the absence of bright light, and in support of his theory cites some of the experiments of Pouchet on shore forms.